

## DIVISION OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Community Health Services Disease Prevention Family Health Health Promotion State Epidemiologist

MEMORANDUM 2007-10

TO: All Vaccine Providers

FROM: Tim Heath

Immunization Program Coordinator

DATE: 12/05/2007

RE: HPV Initiative Ending December 31, 2007

Pneumococcal Vaccine Influenza Initiative

## **Dear Vaccine Providers:**

The initiative to provide free HPV vaccine to all SD females 11 through 18 years of age is ending on December 31. If a patient has started the 3 dose series in 2007, she can complete it in 2008 with the free vaccine. Also, if the patient has started the series when 18 years of age, and will turn 19 before the series is completed, she can still receive the free vaccine.

I would encourage you to contact patients that have not started this beneficial vaccine to come in and begin the series before the end of the year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you about the Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine. This vaccine is available to all children under 5 years of age. We are working to increase the coverage of this vaccine in SD and your hard work and dedication are very much appreciated. The recommended schedule is to give doses at 2, 4, and 6 months of age, with a booster dose at 12-15 months of age. For children 7 months of age and older, the doses and schedule are dependant on the child's current age. Please see page 265 in the 2007 *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases* (pink book) for more information.

I would also like to remind you to keep giving the influenza vaccine and to enter you vaccinations into the immunization registry. This will allow us to gather data on coverage rates and the effectiveness of the initiative to vaccinate all children 6 months through 18 years of age.

As we plan to continue offering the free flu vaccine in 2008 and beyond, we would like to ask your opinion on using the FluMist vaccine. Currently FluMist is ACIP recommended for healthy non-pregnant individuals 5-49 years of age and children 2-4 years of age without history or recurrent wheezing. The two questions we have are would you be interested in using some FluMist vaccine in your facility and how many doses would you anticipate needing for the 2008-09 influenza season. You can email me your answers to these questions, or fill out the included form and return it by mail or fax.

Please feel free to contact me at 605-773-5323 or by email at <u>Tim.Heath@State.SD.US</u> if you have questions.